

To: Director and Laboratory Staff  
From: Survey and Appraisal  
Subject: SURVEY NOTES

FARM SITUATION AND GENERAL BUSINESS  
ACTIVITY

INCREASE IN DEMAND UPS PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

The vigorous upward movement in general business activity is generating a strong demand for farm products. The recent increase in the average of prices received by farmers reflects in part this strength in demand and in part seasonally lower marketings of some agricultural commodities. Prices received by farmers rose an average of 2 percent from mid-April to mid-May, with substantial advances in prices of hogs, beef cattle, and soybeans. Prospects for the 1950 crop production were generally less encouraging than usual on May 1.

The Demand and Price Situation, B.A.E., May 1950, p.1.

COTTON LINT

FAIRCHILD SURVEY SHOWS 21.6 MILLION ACRES PLANTED TO COTTON IN 1950

Advice from Southern Correspondents indicate that about 21,610,000 acres will be planted to cotton this year compared with the revised planted acreage last year of 27,719,000, a reduction of 22 percent. The condition of the crop where it is up to a stand is 69 percent of normal compared with 72 percent of normal the average for the past 10 years. The condition is higher than last year in the Eastern belt, about the same in the Central belt, to slightly better and very spotted in the Western belt.

Herbert Caterson in Daily News Record, June 8, 1950, p. 25.

BAE OPTIMISTIC ON OUTLOOK FOR COTTON CONSUMPTION

Noting that a "brisk demand for gray goods has developed in recent weeks," the Bureau of Agricultural Economics painted a rosy picture on the outlook for raw cotton consumption even though the United States cotton carry-over on August 1 will be about 7,400,000 bales.

Exports in March, said BAE, totaled 686,000 bales, highest figure for any month since February 1940, and the highest for March since 1932. Total exports for the 1949-1950 season are likely to reach the 5,500,000 bale mark. Domestic mill consumption in the eight-month period ended April 1 was nearly 9 percent above the corresponding period in the 1948-1949 season, it was noted.

Daily News Record, June 9, 1950, p. 2.

COTTON CONSUMPTION IN DRESSES UP 24,000 BALES IN 1949

Cotton consumption in women's dresses and shirts in 1949 was up almost 24,000 bales over 1948.

According to the Council's market research department, women's street dresses scored the most notable gains. Cotton's share of this market, which in 1948 was 14 percent, last year increased to 19 percent. Although total production of street dresses dropped from 11,246,000 dozen in 1948 to 10,716,000 dozen in 1949 cotton consumption went up by 28 percent, from 48,000 bales to 61,000 bales.



In 1948, women's shirts represented a market of about 57,000 cotton bale equivalents, with cotton claiming only 6,000 bales. Last year the total market declined to 56,000 bale equivalents, but cotton's share rose to 13,000 bales.

In women's house dresses, cotton consumption last year was three percent higher than in 1948. Of the 7,678,000 dozen house dresses made in 1949, 6,423,000 dozen were cotton, requiring 137,000 bales to manufacture.

Progress Bulletin, National Cotton Council, June 15, 1950, p. 8.

# RAW COTTON PRICES RISES; CLOTH PRICES AND MILL MARGINS DECLINE

The delivered-at-mill price of Middling 15/16-inch cotton on June 15 continued to increase and stood 103 points higher than the same month a year ago. The average price for cloth from 1 pound of cotton was off about 1 cent from the April figure, whereas the mill margins dropped 1-1/3 cents. June prices of 37" 4.00 yard sheeting were down 1/2 cent from the previous month, while printcloth (38-1/2" 5.35 yard) sold 2-1/4 cents lower.

Table 1.- Prices of raw cotton, rayon staple and cotton fabrics, and cotton mill margins in cents

	June 15:	May	April	March	June
	1950	1950	1950	1950	1949
Cotton, Middling 15/16"					
delivered at mills, lb.....	35.40	34.65	34.29	33.52	34.37
Rayon, viscose staple					
equivalent price 1/ lb.....	31.15	31.15	31.15	31.15	31.15
Rayon, acetate staple					
equivalent price 1/ , lb.....	37.38	37.38	37.38	37.38	37.38
Cotton fabrics, average 17 constructions					
Price for cloth from 1 lb. of cotton 2/ :	-	64.65	65.61	68.74	60.22
Mill margins 3/.....	-	31.71	33.08	36.69	27.75
Sheeting, 37" 4.00, yd. 4/.....	15.75	16.25	16.25	16.75	15.50
Osnaburg, 36" 2.35, yd. 5/.....	21.50	21.50	21.88	21.88	19.50
Printcloth, 38-1/2" 5.35, yd. 4/.....	14.75	17.00	17.00	15.25	13.00

- 1/ Cost to mill of same amount of usable fiber as supplied by one pound of cotton (rayon price x .89).
- 2/ Price of approximate quantity of cloth obtainable from a pound of cotton with adjustments for saleable waste (Cotton Branch, P.M.A.).
- 3/ Difference between cloth prices and price (10-market average) of cotton assumed to be used in each kind of cloth (Cotton Branch, P.M.A.).
- 4/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.
- 5/ From Journal of Commerce.

## MAY COTTON CONSUMPTION, SPINDLE ACTIVITY, SPINDLE HOURS UP; STOCKS DOWN

Cotton consumption increased to 36,441 bales per working day during May from 36,172 bales during April, but still was substantially below May 1949. Stocks on hand amounted to 8 million bales at the end of May, compared with 9.1 million bales in April and 6.4 million bales in May 1949. Spindle activity and active spindle hours increased during May. (Table 2)



Table 2.- Cotton consumption and stocks, and spindle hours in cotton mills

	May 1950 2/	April 1950 3/	March 1950 2/	May 1949 4/
Consumption, average per working day, bales 1/	36,441	36,172	35,929	26,999
On hand, 1,000 bales.....	8,008	9,129	10,184	6,357
Active spindle hours, billions.....	8.9	8.8	11.1	7.4
Spindle activity, percent of capacity 5/.....	128.1	127.8	127.3	93.8

1/ Number of working days per month: May 1949, 20-2/3 days (calendar month); March 1950, 25 days (5 weeks); April 1950, 19-2/3 days (4 weeks); and May 1950, 20 days (4 weeks).

2/ Based on 4-week period.

3/ Based on 5-week period.

4/ Based on calendar month.

5/ Includes activity on fibers other than cotton totaling 0.3 to 0.6 billion spindle hours for each period shown.

From Bureau of the Census Reports.

#### COTTON COLOR MEASURED BY NEW INSTRUMENT

Development of an electronic and automatic machine for determining the exact color of cotton has been announced by the Production and Marketing Administration of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. Called the Nickerson-Hunter Cotton Colorimeter, it is designed for use in the cotton classing room to measure the color of cotton automatically so that its exact color may be known to the classer when he assigned the grade. The colorimeter determines the overall color of fiber and foreign material.

For cottons equal to the respective standard grade boxes in all three grade factors--color, trash, and ginning preparation--the grade may be read directly from the colorimeter, it is claimed. For cottons in which the grade factors must be separately considered in determining a final class, the colorimeter aids the classer in determining a final grade. The instrument should not, therefore, be looked upon as an automatic grading device, since its effective use is dependent upon the judgment of the skilled cotton classer.

Textile Industries, May, 1950, p. 173

#### COTTON PRODUCTS

##### BAGS: COTTON BAG PRICES UP; BURLAP BAGS DECLINE

The prices of new cotton and burlap flour bags were \$230.00 and \$227.50 per thousand respectively, on June 15, as compared with \$227.00 and \$228.10 per thousand on May 15 of this year, and \$221.00 and \$194.25 per thousand on June 15 1949. Paper bags sold for \$94.15 per thousand in June and \$98.70 in June one year ago. (Table 3)



Table 3.- Mid-month prices of 100-pound flour bags  
(Dollars per thousand)

	June 1950	May 1950	April 1950	June 1949
<u>Prices, new, St. Louis 1/</u>				
Cotton.....	230.00	227.00	230.00	221.00
Burlap.....	227.50	228.10	237.65	194.25
Paper.....	94.15	94.15	94.15	98.70
<u>Prices, second-hand, New York</u>				
Cotton, once-used 2/.....	140.00	4/	145.00	120.00
Cotton, bakery-run 3/.....	100.00	100.00	100.00	90.00
Burlap, once-used 2/.....	100.00	4/	100.00	85.00
Burlap, bakery-run 3/.....	105.00	105.00	110.00	100.00
Paper, bakery-run 3/.....	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
<u>Difference</u>				
Cotton, new minus once-used.....	90.00	4/	85.00	101.00
Cotton, new minus bakery-run....	130.00	127.00	130.00	131.00
Burlap, new minus once-used.....	127.50	4/	137.65	109.25
Burlap, new minus bakery-run....	122.50	123.10	127.65	94.25
Paper, new minus bakery-run.....	89.15	89.15	89.15	93.70

1/ Cotton, 37" 4.00 yd. sheeting cut 43" unprinted; burlap, 36" 10 oz. cut 43" unprinted; paper, 18 x 4-1/2 x 36-3/4" unprinted; all l.c.l. shipments. No allowance made for quantity or cash discounts. From a large bag manufacturer.

2/ From a large second-hand bag dealer.

3/ From Daily Mill Stock Reporter.

4/ No data available.

#### DRESSES, SKIRTS: 211 THOUSAND BALES OF COTTON CONSUMED IN THIS USE IN 1949

According to the National Cotton Council, the 1949 consumption of cotton in street and house dresses and skirts totaled 211 thousand bales, a gain of 13 percent over 1948. Most of cotton's gain has been in street dresses, for cotton's share of this market was 14 percent in 1948 and 19 percent in 1949. Although total production of street dresses declined from 11.2 million dozen in 1948 to 10.7 dozen in 1949, cotton consumption increased 28 percent, from 48 thousand bales in 1948 to 61 thousand bales in 1949. The use of cotton in women's skirts was 13 thousand bales in 1949 and 6 thousand bales in 1948, representing 23 percent and 11 percent of the market, respectively. Cotton consumption in women's house dresses in 1949 was approximately 3 percent greater than the 1948 consumption of 133 thousand bales. Of the 7.7 million dozen house dresses produced in 1949, 6.2 million dozen were cotton, requiring 137 thousand bales for manufacture.

Journal of Commerce, May 26, 1950, p. 12.

#### KNIT CLOTH: COTTON ACCOUNTED FOR 50 PERCENT OF YARN USED

According to the Bureau of the Census, cotton accounted for over 50 percent of the yarns used in the production of knit cloth for sale in 1949; rayon, 37 percent; wool, 7 percent; nylon, 3 percent; and blends and mixtures, 3 percent.



Table 4.- Yarns consumed in the production of knit cloth for sale, United States, 1949

(Thousand pounds)		
Type of yarn	1949	Percent of total
YARNS CONSUMED, TOTAL.....	146,754	100.0
All-cotton.....	73,973	50.4
All-rayon.....	54,086	36.8
All-wool.....	9,952	6.8
All-nylon.....	4,938	3.4
Cotton-wool blends.....	387	0.3
Cotton-rayon blends.....	1,040	0.7
Other mixtures and blends.....	2,378	1.6

Facts for Industry "Knit Cloth for Sale", Bureau of The Census, U.S.D.C., June 2, 1950.

# TIRE FABRIC: COTTON PRICE INCREASES SLIGHTLY

The price of 12/4/2 cotton fabric was 65.5--67.0 cents per pound and 59.6--60.9 cents per square yard on June 1. This compares with May 1 prices of 65.5 cents per pound and 59.6 cents per square yard for the 12/4/2 cotton fabric. Rayon tire fabric prices were unchanged from May to June 1.

Table 5.- Prices of cotton and rayon tire fabric, June 1 and May 1, 1950

Fabric	Cord	Fabric weight: per sq.yd. 1/	Price per pound		Price per sq. yd.	
			June 1	May 1	June 1	May 1
		Pound	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Passenger car tires:						
Cotton fabric.....	12/4/2:	.91	65.5-67.0	65.5	59.6-60.9	59.6
Rayon fabric.....	1650/2:	.79	61.5-61.8	61.5-61.8	48.6-48.8	48.6-48.8
Truck tires						
Rayon fabric.....	1100/2:	.62	64.0	64.0	39.7	39.7
Rayon fabric.....	1650/2:	.78	61.5	61.5	48.0	48.0
Rayon fabric.....	2200/2:	.82	60.5	60.5	49.6	49.6

1/ These are typical fabric weights and vary somewhat for different tire manufacturers.

Based on reports from independent rubber companies.

# TIRE FABRIC: PRODUCTION OF TIRE CORD AND FABRIC UP: COTTON'S PERCENTAGE DOWN

Production of tire cord and fabric in the first quarter of 1950 increased to 109.5 million pounds as compared with 102.7 million pounds in the fourth quarter of 1949. Only 37 percent of tire cord and fabric production was made of cotton in 1949 as compared with 54 percent in 1948; 60 percent in 1947 and 1945; and 97 percent in 1939. Cotton accounted for 32.9 percent of total tire cord and fabric production in the first quarter of 1950 as compared with 46 percent in the same period a year ago. (Table 6).



Table 6.- Production of cotton and rayon tire cord and fabric, United States, for specified years

(Million pounds)

COTTON					RAYON AND NYLON				
Year	Tire cord:	Chafer &:	Tire cord:	Total	Cord &:	Tire cord:	Total	Grand	
	fabrics	all other:	not		other	not		total	
	woven	fabrics	woven		fabrics	woven			
1939	146.0	17.4	97.1	260.5	8.8 2/	3/	8.8 2/	269.3	
1941	183.4	1/	57.0	240.4	18.3 2/	3/	18.3 2/	258.7	
1942	125.7	32.8	64.6	223.1	25.0 2/	3/	25.0 2/	248.1	
1943	148.5	36.4	54.5	239.4	41.3	4.8	46.1	285.5	
1944	155.9	44.9	64.4	265.2	95.0	7.2	102.2	367.4	
1945	160.8	52.9	63.4	277.1	181.9	3/	181.9	459.0	
1946	162.9	73.7	74.6	311.2	213.1	3/	213.1	524.3	
1947	195.6	70.7	79.2	345.5	206.2	23.5	229.7	575.2	
1948	166.8	65.8	59.3	291.9	250.5	3/	250.5	542.4	
1949	96.6	51.1	17.7	165.4	281.7	3/	281.7	447.1	
1st.qtr.:	33.2	14.5	10.9	58.6	68.9	3/	68.9	127.5	
2nd.qtr.:	29.1	13.6	5.3	48.0	68.3	3/	68.3	116.3	
3rd.qtr.:	16.6	11.1	1.3	29.0	56.0	15.6	71.6	100.6	
4th.qtr.:	17.7	11.9	.2	29.8	59.9	13.0	72.9	102.7	
1950									
1st.qtr.:	19.2	12.9	3.9	36.0	61.0	12.5	73.5	109.5	

1/ Included with "Tire cord not woven."

2/ Trade estimate.

3/ Included with "Rayon cord and other fabric."

Bureau of Census Reports and trade estimates.

COTTON AND RAYON WOVEN GOODS. FINISHED DOWN 6 PERCENT FROM 1948; COTTON'S PERCENTAGE DROPS 2 PERCENT

A total of 8,308 million linear yards of cotton, rayon, nylon and similar fabrics was bleached, dyed or printed and finished during 1949 according to the Bureau of the Census. This is 6 percent less than the 8,823 million yards finished in 1948.

Cotton accounted for 6,275 million linear yards or 75 percent of the broad woven goods bleached, dyed, or printed, and finished in 1949. This compares with 6,780 million linear yards or 77 percent in 1948. The greatest loss suffered by cotton was in fabrics requiring luster, drape, and crease resistance. In 1949 cotton's percentage in lining, interlining and pocketing fabrics dropped to 38 percent from 49 percent the previous year. Declines also occurred in women's and children's dress and underwear fabrics, men's and boys' shirt, pajama and underwear fabrics, suitings, slackings and work clothing fabrics, and drapery curtain, and upholstery fabrics. (Table 7).



Table 7.- Cotton and rayon broad woven goods bleached, dyed or printed, and finished, by end uses, 1949 and 1948

End use	1949		1948	
	Total	Fiber as percent of end use	Total	Fiber as percent of end use
	Million: Per-: lin. yds. cent:	Cotton: Rayon: Other: Percent	Million: Per-: lin. yds. cent:	Cotton: Rayon: Other: Percent
BLEACHED, DYED, OR PRINTED GOODS, TOTAL.....	8,308	100	8,840	100
Women's and children's dress & underwear fabrics:	2,948	100	2,997	100
Men's & boys' shirt, pajama & underwear fabrics..	848	100	917	100
Suitings, slackings, and work clothing fabrics...	757	100	748	100
Drapery, curtain, and upholstery fabrics.....	651	100	643	100
Industrial, mechanical and shoe fabrics.....	372	100	411	100
Table cloths, napkin and dresser cover fabrics..	52	100	58	100
Sheet and pillow case fabrics.....	295	100	339	100
Handkerchief cloth.....	103	100	106	100
Bag goods.....	282	100	263	100
Diaper cloth.....	87	100	88	100
Lining, interlining and pocketing fabrics.....	532	100	456	100
All other.....	1,381	100	1,814	100

1/ Included in "All other" column to avoid disclosing data reported by individual companies.

2/ Less than .05 percent.

3/ Includes silk, nylon, and mixtures containing less than 50 percent cotton or rayon, and similar fabrics. Does not include fabrics containing 25 percent or more wool.

From Facts for Industry, "Cotton and Rayon Woven Goods Finished," Bureau of the Census.



## COMPETITIVE PRODUCTS

### ABACA: CENTRAL AMERICAN SUPPLY CALLED "GOOD INSURANCE"

According to an editorial in the New York World Telegram and Sun, "Abaca", which sounds like something out of a crossword puzzle, actually is a remarkably useful rope fibre—long, hard, durable and elastic. Being highly resistant to salt-water rot, abaca is fine for making marine cable, ship rigging, cargo netting and other like gear. This country requires a lot of it, in peacetime as well as in war; but abaca grows only in the tropics. Ninety-eight per cent of the world's supply used to come from the Philippines. During World War II, the U. S. Government invested \$40 million in abaca plantations in Central America. Of that amount, \$27 million has already been recovered through sales of the fiber. The Munitions Board is now asking Congress for permission to put \$35 million more into expansion of the Central American plantations to almost twice their present size. Shortages of hard rope fiber proved costly in the recent war. We need a large, dependable source of supply near at hand, as insurance against such shortages in the future, and apparently there is a big and profitable peacetime market for abaca.

Daily Mill Stock Reporter, June 6, 1950, p.2.

### NYLON: BRITISH PRODUCER CUTS YARN PRICES MORE THAN 20% TO LET FIRM COMPETE IN HARD CURRENCY MARKETS

British Nylon Spinners, Ltd., the nation's only producer of nylon, cut its nylon yarn prices more than 20%, effective June 5. The reductions will bring prices into line with those quoted by U. S. manufacturers, and, as a result, is expected to enable the British firm to compete in hard currency markets. No comparison of U.S. and British prices was available. British Nylon Spinners is jointly owned by Imperial Chemicals and Courtaulds.

As the production of nylon does not require the importation of raw materials, the export of nylon products represents a "substantial gain" for Britain, the company stated. British Nylon Spinners predicted the price cuts would boost exports of all nylon manufactures—both stockings and fabrics—to more than \$28 million this year. In 1949, Britain exported about \$7,800,000 worth of nylon stockings. No figures were available for fabric exports. The bulk of the nylon goods produced in Britain are shipped to overseas markets.

The Wall Street Journal, June 6, 1950, p. 16.

### ORLON: DU PONT TO BEGIN PRODUCTION THIS MONTH IN CAMDEN, S.C., PLANT

E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.'s new plant at Camden, S. C., late this month will begin producing Orlon, the big chemical company's new synthetic fiber. This new filament plant will employ 500 this year. Even before it gets into production, the company has begun construction of an addition to the structure in which it will install facilities for making short staple Orlon to compete with wool. The entire Camden plant, when completed next year, will provide employment for 1,000.

Du Pont has not yet announced the plant's productive capacity, but it is believed it will be under 10 million pounds annually. This is a drop in the bucket for the textile fabric market, but it heralds the beginning of a major industry which is expected to rival nylon in importance. Company spokesmen say, "before the new fiber meets the supreme test of competition next year, the firm will have spent \$7 million on research and \$15 million on the plant. The word from trade sources is that Du Pont is making plans for an additional 40 million pounds annual capacity of Orlon to cost another \$100 million. Du Pont won't confirm this report.



While originally it was aimed at such markets as auto convertible top covers, difficult problems of dyeing have been solved, and Orlon now is being tested for men's suits and blankets and the like. Large textile firms, such as Burlington Mills, Deering Milliken & Co., J. P. Stevens & Co., and Robbins Mills are making experimental fabrics; it is understood that at least one of these firms would be glad to take all of Du Pont's output.

The Wall Street Journal, June 9, 1950, p. 5.

**ORLON: AWNING FABRIC CLAIMED TO HAVE 5 TIMES THE STRENGTH AND 4 TIMES AS COLORFAST AS COTTON CANVAS**

According to Howard M. Brigham of the Raven Cotton Mills, Glen Raven, N. C., Orlon fabric has been proven by weatherometer tests conducted by the U. S. Testing Co. to have five times the strength of cotton canvas, and, with new coloring processes, Orlon is four times as colorfast as cotton canvas. He further claims that cotton canvas lost 60 percent of its strength at the end of 44 hours, while Orlon lost only 13 percent at the end of that time. Orlon lost one-third of its strength of 108 weeks, while cotton weakened one-third in 22 weeks.

He further states that originally Orlon, painted with awning paints, was found to hold its color at least twice as long as cotton, but was hampered by a tendency to stiffen on exposure. Then a new dyeing process called "padded pigmenting" eliminated the stiffening effect and colored the Orlon with a fastness at least four times as enduring as dyed cotton fabric. Mr. Brigham also mentioned that a well-known brand of cotton duck started to lose its color at the end of 200 hours on the weatherometer, and Orlon, after 800 hours under the test, had not yet begun to show signs of fading. The price of a 31-inch fabric made of Orlon is \$3 per yard, or about "half way" between the cost of cotton and metal for awnings.

Daily News Record, May 22, 1950, p. 31.

**PLASTIC FILM: 77.5 MILLION POUNDS USED IN 1949**

According to Ralph F. Hansen of Monsanto Chemical Company, the use of plastic film yard goods totaled 77.5 million pounds in 1949; 46 million pounds in 1948; and 23 million pounds in 1947. Apparel yard goods consumed 22.5 million pounds of 2-10-gauge film during 1949, as contrasted with 15 million pounds in 1948 and 7 million pounds in 1947. Household uses were 45 million pounds, 24 million pounds, and 12 million pounds in 1949, 1948, and 1947. Other uses were credited with 10, 7, and 4 million pounds in the three years.

Daily News Record, May 17, 1950, p. 37.

**RAYON: NORTH AMERICAN RAYON INCREASES PRICES ON VISCOSE YARNS**

North American Rayon Corp. increased prices on viscose process textile yarns June 5, the increases ranging from 2 to 4 cents on most types. Prices on 75- and 100-denier weaving cones and 300 skeins were 6 cents above the previous list.

Daily News Record, June 6, 1950, p. 35.

**RAYON: WORLD OUTPUT IN '49 NEARS RECORD: TOTAL PRODUCTION 10% ABOVE PREVIOUS YEAR**

World rayon production in 1949 came within 4 percent of the all-time record production in 1941, according to a survey by the Textile Economics Bureau, Inc. During 1949, a total of 2,704,620,000 pounds were produced throughout the world compared to 2,811,890,000 pounds in 1941. The world potential for rayon output is 3,842,855,000 pounds, of which 2,022,665,000 pounds is filament yarn and 1,820,190,000 pounds is staple. By December 1951, the Bureau states, world rayon capacity will be increased to 4,188,940,000 pounds on an annual basis, split in the proportion of 53 percent filament yarn, and 47 percent staple.

Daily News Record, June 12, 1950, p. 21.



RAYON AND OTHER SYNTHETIC FIBERS: PRODUCTION IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1950 ABOVE LAST YEAR'S PRODUCTION

Total production of rayon broad woven fabrics rose every year from 1945 to 1948, but declined in 1949. The 1950 first quarter production of rayon broad woven fabrics totaled 588 million linear yards, or was 76 million linear yards greater than the same quarter last year.

Production of fabrics of nylon, silk, glass, and other synthetic fabrics have increased every year since 1945, attaining a peak production of 137 million linear yards in 1949. Production of these fabrics during the first quarter of 1950 were nearly double that of the 1959 first quarter production.

Table 8.- Production of rayon broad woven fabrics, United States, for specified years and periods, in million linear yards

	1st.qtr.: 1950	1st.qtr.: 1949	1949	1948	1947	1945
RAYON BROAD WOVEN FABRICS, TOTAL:	588.3	512.6	1,929.5	2,180.9	1,976.8	1,552.1
100% filament rayon fabrics.....	386.7	337.9	1,271.1	1,350.9	1,236.8	1,028.7
100% spun rayon fabrics.....	107.3	79.6	322.9	379.7	332.4	162.0
Combination filament and spun rayon fabrics.....	51.3	50.1	176.8	254.7	179.0	159.1
Pile, upholstery, drapery, tapestry, and tie fabrics.....	9.1	9.0	33.3	40.8	57.1	31.8
All other rayon mixtures.....	33.9	36.0	125.4	154.8	171.5	170.5
NYLON, SILK, GLASS, AND OTHER FABRICS 1/, TOTAL.....	47.2	26.4	136.6	82.0	61.6	67.4
100% nylon fabrics.....	26.3	14.3	87.4	32.7	21.9	43.4
100% silk fabrics.....	5.0	4.7	15.5	17.9	8.9	1.9
Silk mixtures.....	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.9	(	22.1
Other.....	15.8	7.3	33.4	30.5	30.8	(

1/ Also includes fabrics made of casein, other synthetic fibers, and mixtures of rayon and other fibers containing less than 51 percent rayon by weight.

From Facts for Industry, "Rayon Broad Woven Goods," Bureau of the Census.

RAYON: AVISCO ANNOUNCES NEW RAYON STAPLE

According to an announcement by the American Viscose Corporation, they have developed a 15-denier, full crimped rayon staple specially designed for use in rugs and carpets. It will be called "Avisco 15." Several leading carpet manufacturers have already adopted Avisco 15, and are weaving it into new blended carpets and rugs to be introduced at the summer shows in Chicago and New York. Carpets and rugs containing the fiber have already been woven on axminster, wilton and velvet looms. They are being woven in a wide range of plain colors and patterns, in twist and in cut and uncut pile types. Viscose Corporation has spent more than 10 years studying and experimenting with this new staple fiber.

Journal of Commerce, May 29, 1950, p. 10.

RAYON: SUITS COMPRISE 39 PERCENT OF SUMMER-WEIGHT SUIT MARKET

The use of rayon in summer-weight suits increased from 19 percent of the market in 1947 to 39 percent of the suits in 1949, and is expected to account for a greater share in 1950. According to an excerpt from a brief submitted by the Burlington Mills Corp. to the House Armed Service Committee, the following sales figures were given as evidence of the success of rayon suiting: 1947, 750 thousand suits; 1948, 1020 thousand suits; 1949, 1305 thousand suits, and 1950, a prediction that 1,500 thousand suits would be sold.



Table 9.- Production of suits with rayon suit sales expressed as a percentage of the total summer suit production, United States, 1947-49

	1949	1948	1947
	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>suits</u>	<u>suits</u>	<u>suits</u>
Production of suits, total 1/....	18,692.1	23,411.6	25,723.0
Winter-weight. ....	15,301.0	19,103.5	21,732.0
Summer-weight.....	3,391.1	4,308.1	3,991.0
Sales of rayon suits 2/.....	1,305.0	1,020.0	750.0
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Rayon suit sales as percent of summer-weight suit production....	38.5	23.7	18.8

1/ From Bureau of the Census reports.

2/ Rayon suit sales. Based on data from an excerpt of a brief submitted by the Burlington Mills Corp. to the House Armed Service Committee. Published in Daily News Record, July 18, 1949, p. 18.

#### RAYON: RAYON EXPANDS ITS SHARE OF TROUSERS' MARKET IN 1949

The production of men's rayon dress and sport trousers was 14.8 million dozen pairs in 1949; 11.0 million dozen pairs in 1948; 10.5 million dozen pairs in 1947; and 10.9 million dozen pairs in 1946. It comprised 40 percent, 20 percent, 25 percent, and 26 percent, respectively, of the market for the same years. Wool trousers production dropped every year since 1947; cotton trousers production, every year since 1946.

Table 10.- Cuttings of men's separate dress and sport trousers, United States, 1946-1949

	1949	1948	1947	1946
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>dozen</u>	<u>dozen</u>	<u>dozen</u>	<u>dozen</u>
	<u>pairs</u>	<u>pairs</u>	<u>pairs</u>	<u>pairs</u>
Production of trousers, total.....	36,874.6	37,741.9	42,843.0	41,749.0
Cotton.....	3,184.3	3,919.2	5,919.0	8,026.0
Rayon.....	14,819.9	11,048.5	10,481.0	10,879.0
Wool.....	18,870.4	22,774.2	26,443.0	22,844.0
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Production of trousers, total.....	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Cotton.....	8.6	10.4	13.8	19.2
Rayon.....	40.2	29.3	24.5	26.1
Wool.....	51.2	60.3	61.7	54.7

From Bureau of Census Reports.



# SARAN: FIRESTONE FIRM DOUBLING CAPACITY FOR VINYL MONOFIL

Firestone Plastics Co. is now doubling its production facilities for Velon yarn (for which the generic term is saran), according to Roger Firestone, president. Current capacity is estimated at 15,000 pounds per day at 2,000 yards to the pound for 12-gauge filament.

While perhaps 90 percent of the yarn now being used in fabrics is going into seat covers, he said, its use is about to be expanded and it will soon be used as original seat covering in convertibles. "It will appear shortly as upholstery or furniture covering material, as well as in draperies," he said. "So far, the yarn has been successfully and commercially produced only as small in diameter as .008 inch, but, experimentally, it has been produced in .005 inch and in multi-filament."

Greatest potential is believed to be in combination with rayon, cotton, nylon, and Fiberglas, he said. Carpets have been made by flocking wool into a base of open mesh woven Velon. Marquisette curtains of the materials still have some "bugs" to be taken up, he added, while the combination with glass fibers is seen meeting acceptance in draperies.

Daily News Record, June 5, 1950

## WOOL: CONSUMPTION OF APPAREL WOOL FOR FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR ABOVE FIRST QUARTER OF LAST YEAR

Consumption of apparel wool rose from 86.5 million pounds in the first quarter of 1949 to 107.8 million pounds in the first quarter of this year. Carpet wool consumption was down only .1 million pounds for the same quarters.

Table 11.- Consumption of wool of the sheep, scoured basis, United States, for the specified periods

(Million pounds)								
Apparel class				Carpet class, foreign				Grand total
Woolen	Worsted	Total		Woolen	Worsted	Total		
system	system			system	system			
1948 1/.....	165.8	319.4	485.2	201.1	6.8	207.9		693.1
1949 1/.....	139.2	204.0	343.2	158.6	3.2	161.8		505.0
1949, Jan.-Mar. 2/..	31.1	55.4	86.5	50.1	1.1	51.2		137.7
1950, Jan.-Mar. 2/..	33.6	74.2	107.8	50.0	1.1	51.1		158.9
1950, Feb. 3/.....	13.5	30.0	43.5	19.0	.5	19.5		63.0
1950, Mar. 4/.....	12.5	29.5	42.0	19.5	-	19.5		61.5
1/ Total for 52 weeks.								
2/ Total for 13 weeks.								
3/ Total for 4 weeks.								
4/ Total for 5 weeks.								

Facts for Industry "Wool Manufactures," Bureau of the Census.



# WOOL: FIRST QUARTER PRODUCTION OF WOVEN FABRIC DOWN 8 PERCENT FROM LAST QUARTER OF 1949

According to the Bureau of the Census, first quarter production of woollen and worsted fabric was 108 million linear yards, 8 percent below the previous quarter, but 6 percent above the corresponding period of 1949. The all-over decline was largely the result of decreased activity in women's and children's wear fabrics. Output in these lines declined 15 percent from the fourth quarter level.

Table 12.- Production of woven and worsted woven fabrics (25 percent or more of wool), United States, first quarter of 1950 and last quarter of 1949

(Million linear yards)			
	First quarter: 1950	Last quarter: 1949	%change since last qtr. 1949
WOVEN FABRIC (except felt), TOTAL.....	108.3	118.2	- 8.4
Apparel.....	90.9	102.8	-11.6
Government orders.....	2.5	3.7	-32.4
Other than Government orders.....	88.4	99.1	-10.8
Men's and boys' wear.....	42.0	43.1	- 2.6
Women's and children's wear....	40.8	48.2	-15.4
Unclassified.....	5.6	7.8	-28.2
Non-apparel.....	17.4	15.4	+13.0
Blankets, 25% or more wool.....	5.3	5.9	-10.2
All other.....	12.1	9.5	27.4

From Journal of Commerce, May 23, 1950, p. 13.

## TEXTILE RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

### NEW FRENCH LOOM

The U. S. Department of Commerce's Office of International Trade reports that a French manufacturing firm has developed a new shuttleless, automatic, recti-linear loom, claimed to be capable of virtually non-stop weaving. When provided with a good warp, this loom is reported to have an actual output close to its theoretical capacity, since no time is lost in replenishing the weft.

It is claimed that the loom will reduce costs of production through the elimination of the shuttle and auxiliary equipment. Estimated hourly capacity of the loom is 8 square metres of cloth of 22 weft threads to the centimetre. Since the worker's task is reduced to mending broken yarn, one employee can operate 12 to 16 looms. It is also claimed that the loom is particularly suited to weaving mixed yarns of cotton, linen, wool, silk and rayon.

British Rayon and Silk Journal, March 1950, p. 43.

### APPAREL, BLANKETS SEEN USING WOOL CRIMPING PROCESS

The "Textralize" process for imparting a permanent crimp to wool fibers, developed by the Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Co., is being explored by other branches of the industry, including those engaged in the manufacture of blankets and upholstery and apparel fabrics, according to Julius B. Goldberg, research director of J. P. Stevens & Co., Inc.



The process comprises a comparatively simple and inexpensive method for imparting a permanent crimp to wool fibers. He further said that with the emphasis on research to try to increase the use of lower grades of wools in clothing materials, any development which points to improved spinning and short-cut processing is certainly worthy of careful study and experimentation.

Daily News Record, June 5, 1950, p. 1.

#### CRIMPING PROCESS APPLICABLE TO COTTON

"Texturalizing" makes possible weight reductions of more than 20 percent in "certain textiles," according to Laitland L. Griggs, vice-president and treasurer of the Alexander Smith & Sons Carpet Co. He further stated that such reduction could be made without any noticeable difference in the character or life of the fabric. Such a potential is significant, he said, not only in terms of reduced raw material costs, but in view of consumer demand for lighter weight fabrics and garments. To date, the Smith firm has been preoccupied in applying the crimping process to wool, but Mr. Griggs said it "offers many possibilities in the modification of other natural fibers such as cotton, silk, and mohair." The company is now experimenting with cotton and several cotton mills have expressed interest.

Daily News Record, June 6, 1950, p. 6.

#### YARNS: GERMAN FIRM CLAIMS TO HAVE PROCESS TO INCREASE TEAR AND ABRASION RESISTANCE OF COTTON, RAYON, AND WOOL YARNS

According to a firm named Friedrich Sander Wachf, of Luppertal Barmen, Germany, they have developed a process by which the tear resistance of cotton, rayon, and wool yarns is increased by 20 to 25 percent, while the abrasion resistance can be increased by 500 to 700 percent.

Courtaulds Ltd., Fashion & Development Section, C. L. F.  
Department, London, England. Vol. 4, No. 7, April 12, 1950.

#### NO SHRINK, NO STRETCH WOMEN'S DRESSES OF SPECIALLY-TREATED COTTON, RAYON, AND OTHER FABRICS ARE ABOUT TO HIT THE MARKET HERE.

A "permanent" glaze, developed by the Calico Printers Association of Manchester, permits an indefinite number of washings of a garment without loss of shape, it's claimed. What's more, the glaze doesn't change the look or feel of the fabric.

According to the Association, the process, known as Calpreta, also permits washing of a dress which normally requires dry-cleaning. Other virtues: Textiles become stronger, more crease-resistant, require less ironing. The organization sees a possibility of big exports to torrid climes, where frequent clothes washing is necessary.

The Wall Street Journal, June 12, 1950, p.1.

#### CONTROLLING OUR NO. 1 DEMON

Chemical researchers are never afraid to "play with fire," particularly in looking for new ways to place it under control. Many of our present fire-retardant chemicals for textile fabrics are efficient and meet specifications of government agencies as well as the pyrolysis test. But one drawback of flame-resisting compounds has been their tendency to wash out. For that reason, researchers at American Cyanamid's Stamford Laboratories have developed a compound which has the advantage of durability on cotton, rayon, and wool fabrics. The new fire retardant will withstand gentle washing in the household even if it won't survive the rugged routine of the laundry. Cyanamid researchers indicate the flame-resisting effect is obtained through use of an amine-derived resin, although they will say little more pending further development.

Chemical and Engineering News, May 29, 1950, p. 1795.



## PROTEIN FIBERS: PATENT ON PROTEIN FILAMENT GRANTED

A patent for a method of producing artificial protein filaments of relatively high tensile strength has been assigned to Imperial Chemicals Industries, Ltd., Great Britain. The patent, No. 2,504,844, was granted to James F. Keggin, West Kilbride, Scotland. This method comprises wet spinning a matured alkaline solution of vegetable globulin into an acidic saline coagulating bath. Next, the resulting filaments are stretched and rendered resistant to attack by boiling water and hot dilute acids by immersion in an acidic, saline formaldehyde solution. The filaments are washed and dried, and then stretched in an atmosphere of relative humidity above 30 percent by application of gradually increased tension until the filaments stretch beyond their elastic limit not enough to break them. Finally, the tension on the extended filaments is released.

Daily News Record, May 23, 1950, p. 32.

## OILSEEDS AND RELATED PRODUCTS

### PRODUCTION OF FATS AND OILS DECLINES IN FIRST SIX MONTHS

Output of the primary fats and oils other than butter in the 6-month period April-September 1950 is likely to total slightly less than the 2.8 million pounds produced in the comparable period a year earlier. A moderate prospective increase in output of lard in this period will be more than offset by a decline in production of edible vegetable oils. Most of the decline is likely to come in July-September, because of a rapid early-season crushing of the 1949-crop soybeans, early marketing of 1949 fall-crop pigs, and the likelihood of a reduced cottonseed production this year, which will be reflected in a smaller September crush than in September 1949.

Domestic disappearance of food fats and oils other than butter in January-March 1950 was exceptionally large, equal to about 10 pounds per person. Even with a decline in domestic disappearance in April-September to about the quarterly rate of a year earlier, 8.4 pounds per person, and with a substantial reduction in exports from the January-March rate factory and warehouse stocks of food fats and oils other than butter on October 1, 1950 would not be greatly different from the relatively small total of 365 million pounds a year earlier.

The Demand and Price Situation, BAE, May 1950, p.12.

### U. S. FATS AND OILS IMPORTS GREATER THAN IN 1949

United States April 1950 imports of specified fats and oils (as oil) were 86.8 million pounds and the January-April total was 344.6 million. Both figures represent about 98 percent of all imported fats and oils in the respective periods. April imports were 77 percent greater than in 1949, but the 4-month total was only 15 percent greater. Copra and coconut oil account for more than one-half of the imports.

Foreign Crops and Markets, June 19, 1950, p. 620

### MID-JUNE PRICES OF MOST VEGETABLE OILS AND MEALS LOWER

Wholesale prices of the major edible fats and oils continued to rise in May, but were off from 1 to 1-1/2 cents a pound by mid-June. Most vegetable oils were substantially higher in June than they were in the same month a year ago.

Vegetable oilseed meals also advanced in May. Peanut and coconut meals continued to advance in the first half of June, while cottonseed, soybeans and linseed meals declined from \$1.87 to \$6.62 per ton. (Table 13)



Table 13.- Prices of vegetable oils and meals

Product	June 1950	May 1950 <u>11/</u>	April 1950	June 1949
	Cents per pound			
<u>OILS 1/</u>	<u>June 19</u>			
Cottonseed oil.....	13.3	14.4	13.6	10.0
Peanut oil.....	13.3	15.0	14.8	11.4
Soybean oil.....	12.5	13.6	13.1	9.4
Corn oil.....	14.3	14.7	14.0	10.7
Coconut oil <u>2/</u> .....	16.6	17.5	18.6	17.4
Linseed oil <u>3/</u> .....	18.9	18.2	18.0	28.3
Tung oil <u>4/</u> .....	23.5	25.0	27.0	21.5
	Dollars per ton			
<u>MEALS 5/</u>	<u>June 17</u>			
Cottonseed meal <u>6/</u> ..	65.50	67.37	64.40	59.15
Peanut meal <u>7/</u> .....	76.00	73.25	68.80	56.00
Soybean meal <u>8/</u> .....	72.00	78.62	73.25	75.40
Coconut meal <u>9/</u> .....	70.00	67.75	64.00	59.00
Linseed meal <u>10/</u> ....	63.50	67.12	72.90	54.75

1/ Crude, tanks, f.o.b. mills except as noted. From Oil, Paint and Drug Reporter, (daily quotations) and from Fats and Oils Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).

2/ Crude, tanks, carlots, Pacific Coast. Three cents added to allow for tax on first domestic processing.

3/ Raw, drums, carlots, New York.

4/ Drums, carlots, New York.

5/ Bagged carlots, as given in Feedstuffs, (daily quotations) and Feed Situation, BAE (monthly quotations).

6/ 41 percent protein, Memphis.

7/ 45 percent protein, S. E. Mills.

8/ 41 percent protein, Chicago.

9/ 19 percent protein, Los Angeles.

10/ 34 percent protein, Minneapolis.

11/ Preliminary.

#### COPRA: CRUSHERS SHORT OF STOCK

The stock of Philippine copra on hand in the United States is dwindling to an abnormally low level in spite of the attractive prices offered by American producers dealing through the crushers here. Civil disorder in the interior is held as the main reason that coconut hulls and meat are not reaching the port of Manila for export. Further the diversion of coconut stocks to desiccate coconut manufacturers has caused some shortage. Stocks are expected to be replenished by the middle of the year as production and internal affairs should be improved by that time.

The Cotton Digest, May 6, 1950, p. 18.

#### COTTONSEED: OIL YIELD INCREASED \$5.95 A TON BY NEW PROCESS

According to W. Hunt Moore, of Delta Products Co., Wilson, Ark., a new process of solvent extraction from cottonseed oil has been found which will increase the value of oil output of cottonseed by \$5.95 a ton. The new process is called Exsolex (Expeller-Solvent Extraction). In explaining the economy of the new process, Mr. Moore cited records of his company to show that by it mills can save up to \$6.50 per ton of seed crushed by producing more oil with less labor.

The Cotton Trade Journal, June 2, 1950, p.5.



## CANADA'S MARGARINE INDUSTRY EXPANDING RAPIDLY

Canadian margarine production is more than maintaining the rate established in 1949. During January-April 1950 the output was 34,900,000 pounds against 19,059,000 in the same months of last year and a total of 73,958,000 in 1949, the first year of production. According to trade information, margarine is supplanting butter in Canada to the extent of about 3,500,000 pounds per month. Creamery butter production has not decreased but stocks were considerably larger at the end of the first quarter of this year and also at the beginning of 1950 than on the corresponding dates of 1949.

Foreign Crops and Markets, June 12, 1950, p. 587.

## DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION OF EDIBLE PEANUTS CONTINUES ABOVE LAST SEASON

The total quantity of shelled edible peanuts reported used during the period September 1, 1949, through May 31, 1950, amounted to 380 million pounds. This compares with 372 million pounds used during the comparable period last season. Peanuts used in peanut candy increased 19 percent and the amount crushed for oil, cake and meal jumped 87 percent compared to a similar period last season. Losses were sustained in peanut butter, salted peanuts, and other products.

Table 14.- Shelled peanuts (raw basis) reported used domestically in primary products

Reported use	Sept. 1 - May 31		Season, Sept. 1 - Aug. 31	
	1949-50	1948-49	1948-49	1947-48
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
TOTAL, all grades.....	728,858	557,634	710,596	627,252
Edible grades, total.....	380,065	371,628	484,431	493,266
Peanut candy 1/.....	97,491	81,626	107,181	119,814
Salted peanuts.....	87,837	93,105	120,018	117,155
Peanut butter 2/.....	187,353	191,709	250,184	250,858
Other products.....	7,384	5,188	7,048	5,439
Crushed for oil, cake and				
meal 3/.....	348,793	186,006	226,165	133,986

1/ Includes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.

2/ Excludes peanut butter made by manufacturers for own use in candy.

3/ Includes ungraded or straight run peanuts.

From: Peanut Stocks and Processing, BAE, 1950.

## SAFFLOWER WINS ACREAGE IN CALIFORNIA

Safflower is winning a place in the sunny San Joaquin Valley section of Kern County, California. Experimental plantings of safflower have been so successful there that it is estimated the new oil-producing crop may run as high as 15 thousand acres within the next few months. Farmers have been told that "if your land will produce cotton or grain, it will grow safflower" by two Kern County farmers. Several cotton farmers have already contracted to grow safflower for seed-oil companies interested in the crop.

Safflower oil is considered exceedingly fine for paints and varnishes, and may replace soybean oil that is imported into the district by paint manufacturers. Reports indicate that contracts are being let at \$72 a ton for safflower seed based on soybean oil at 12-1/2 cents a pound for 1950 crop.

Chemurgic Digest, April 1950, p. 17.



## TUNG: HONG KONG EXPORTS DROP IN FIRST QUARTER OF 1950

Hong Kong tung oil exports during January-March were 3,695 short tons against 8,014 in the same months of 1949. April and May exports to the United States amounted to 2,920 tons compared with only 600 tons for the January-March quarter. The sharp decline in the first quarter of this year applied to most countries. Exceptions were Norway and the United States with increases of 31 and 5 percent, respectively.

Foreign Crops and Markets, June 12, 1950, p. 585

## TUNG: ARGENTINE TUNG HARVEST IS REPORTED DOWN

Argentine producers expect the 1950 tung nut harvest to be smaller than the record crop of 1949. Tung trees were damaged by two severe frosts while in flower. In addition, drought in Misiones Territory from October through December reduced growth. Because of these developments, the June 1950 harvest is forecast currently at 45 thousand short tons of unhusked sun-dried nuts, compared with the estimated 1949 production of 65 thousand tons. Assuming a yield of 16 percent, the oil equivalent of the current crop would be 7 thousand tons. On the same basis, 1949 tung oil production is now estimated at 10.5 thousand tons.

The Cotton Gin and Oil Mill Press, May 13, 1950, p. 52.

## VEGETABLE OILS PROCESSED TO MATCH CACAO BUTTER

A new synthetic fat that has a maximum of solids at room temperature, and a minimum of solids and a relatively sharp melting point at body temperature has been prepared by a patented process, according to "Food Industries" for March 1950.

In reporting on a patent issued to N. W. Ziels, Leonia, and W. H. Schmidt, Grantwood, N. J., and assigned to Lever Bros., the story reports that the crux of the process is hydrogenation of normally liquid vegetable oils using a sulphonated catalyst. Directions are given for preparation of a nickle catalyst containing 3.65% sulphur.

Properties of oils hydrogenated with this catalyst are comparable to those of cacao butter. This chemurgic process is reportedly usable with peanut, cottonseed, soybean and other normally liquid glyceride oils.

Chemurgic Digest, April 1950, p. 21.

## LINTERS AND CELLULOSE

### CONSUMPTION OF COTTON LINTERS INCREASES: PRICES UP

Production of linters at oil mills totaled 107,000 bales in April compared with 99,000 in April and 80,000 in May a year ago. Consumption of linters totaled 134,000 bales during May. This compares with 131,000 bales in April and 126,000 in May a year ago. About 1,363,000 bales were consumed during the August-May period this season. This is 15 percent more than the 1,181,000 bales consumed in the corresponding 10 months last season. Linters consumption in the past 10 seasons (1939-48) averaged 1,265,000 bales.

The price of grade 2 linters continued the moderate decline which began in March of this year. Grade 4 linters, at 7.81 cents a pound, is the highest since February 1947. The price of grade 6 linters increased to 5.26 cents a pound from 4.57 and is the highest since June 1947. (Table 15).



Table 15.- Cotton linters: Production, consumption by industries, stocks and prices, United States, for specified months

	May 1950 1/	April 1950 1/	March 1950 2/	February 1950 1/	May 1949 3/
	bales	bales	bales	bales	bales
Production 4/.....	5/	107.0	147.0	158.0	80.0
Consumption 6/.....	133.6	131.1	155.8	127.7	126.4
Quantity bleached.....	83.4	81.4	98.7	79.4	79.8
Other industries.....	50.2	49.7	57.1	48.3	46.6
Stocks 7/.....	5/	580.0	562.0	580.0	589.0
Prices 8/:	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
No. 2 grade, per lb.....	10.96	10.97	11.00	10.91	7.84
No. 4 grade, per lb.....	7.81	7.42	7.21	7.11	4.32
No. 6 grade, per lb.....	5.26	4.57	4.20	3.89	2.75

- 1/ Based on 4 week period.  
2/ Based on 5 week period.  
3/ For calendar months.  
4/ From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.  
5/ Data not available.  
6/ From Facts for Industry, "Cotton and Linters," Bureau of the Census.  
7/ Total stocks in consumer establishments, public storage and warehouses, and mills. Stocks at end of the month. From Facts for Industry, "Cotton Linters," Bureau of the Census.  
8/ Average of average weekly prices, Memphis, Dallas, and Atlanta. From Weekly Cotton Linters Review, PMA, Cotton Branch, USDA.

PRICE OF PURIFIED LINTERS ADVANCES: DISSOLVING WOOD PULP UNCHANGED

For the sixth successive month, the price of purified linters advanced and is now the highest since February 1948. Prices for the three grades of dissolving wood pulp remained unchanged.

Table 16.- Average annual price of purified linters and dissolving wood pulp, United States, for specified years and months

(Cents per pound)

Year	Purified linters 1/	Standard viscose grade	Wood pulp 2/ High-tenacity: viscose grade	Acetate & cupra grade
1946.....	9.50	5.60	5.85	6.15
1947.....	16.30	7.03	7.44	8.04
1948.....	11.25	7.93	8.44	9.20
1949.....	8.62	7.94	8.44	9.06
1950, January.....	9.35	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, February.....	10.50	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, March.....	11.35	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, April.....	12.35	7.50	8.05	8.55
1950, May.....	12.70	7.50	8.05	8.55

- 1/ Weighted averages, 1946-48. On 7 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. pulp plant. Average freight to users is 0.5 cent per pound. Prices supplied by a producer.  
2/ Average of monthly prices, 1946-48. Compiled from Rayon Organon and from letters to us from producer. Wood pulp prices are 10 percent moisture basis, f.o.b. domestic producing mill, full freight, and 3 percent transportation tax allowed, Dec. 1, 1947 on; freight equalized with that Atlantic or Gulf port carrying lowest backhaul rate to destination plus 3 percent of backhaul charges, prior to Dec. 1.



# DISSOLVING WOOD PULP DATA GIVEN

Domestic production, imports, exports, and quantities available for domestic consumption of dissolving wood pulp are given in table below.

Table 17.- Dissolving wood pulp: Production, exports, imports, and quantities made available for consumption, United States, for specified years and months.

	(Tons)			
	: Domestic : production 1/	: Imports 2/	: Exports 2/	: Available for : domestic : consumption 3/
1939.....	4/	88,052	48,232	4/
1945.....	4/	143,802	13,033	4/
1946.....	4/	202,192	8,491	4/
1947.....	324,927	248,606	10,389	563,144
1948.....	356,700	243,740	15,937	584,503
1949.....	4/	154,348	25,928	4/
1950, January.....	37,350	14,245	342	51,253
1950, February.....	37,803	19,239	2,676	54,366
1950, March.....	38,567	20,596	571	58,592
1950, April.....	37,828	4/	4/	4/

1/ Sulphite, bleached, dissolving grades. From Facts For Industry, Pulp and Paper Manufactures, Bureau of the Census.

2/ Sulphite, bleached, rayon and special chemical grades. Data from Foreign Commerce Statistics of the United States, Bureau of the Census.

3/ Production plus imports, less exports.

4/ No data.

## MISCELLANEOUS PRODUCTS

### ALCOHOL: PRODUCER BOOSTS PRICES 4 CENTS A GALLON

The price of ethyl alcohol, which next to water is the most widely used solvent in industry, was increased 4 cents a gallon by a leading producer, U. S. Industrial Chemicals, Inc. This is the third price increase announcement since last July, when the price was moved up to 29 cents a gallon. The new U.S.I. price is 39 cents a gallon.

Alcohol is particularly important in industry as a paint remover, for perfumes, artificial leather, rubber cements, shellac, in production of synthetic rubber and rayon, for extracting essential oils, in petroleum refining, in dyeing and printing, in medicine, smokeless powder and artificial leather.

Journal of Commerce, June 13, 1950, p. 1.

### FURFURAL: PRODUCTION FACILITIES INCREASED

A new plant to double the facilities at Niagara Falls, N. Y., for the production of adiponitrile has been announced by E. I. du Pont de Nemours and Co. Adiponitrile, a chemical intermediate of nylon, is made in Niagara Falls from corncobs and oat hulls. Furfural for the manufacture of adiponitrile is made in Memphis, Tenn., from agricultural by-products and shipped to Niagara Falls. The nylon intermediate is shipped from here to another Du Pont plant at Belle, W. Va., for further processing. Ross Hare, manager of the plant, said research and development



in the Niagara Falls laboratories during 1949 firmly established the process in competition with alternate methods of manufacture from derivatives of coal and petroleum. "This is a lot of new business coming out of research," Mr. Hare said. "When the new project is finished about 400 million pounds of corncobs and oat hulls will be used annually in the manufacture of furfural for the Niagara Falls plant."

Agricultural News Letter, E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co.,  
May-June, 1950, p. 53.

#### FISH WASTE MAKES PLASTIC

Plastics made from fish waste are now for sale in Norway, according to Department of Agriculture "Foreign Agriculture" for March. Some of the finished products are transparent, while others vary from light pastel tints to black. The articles are fireproof and the material is said not to split when worked, reports the U.S. Agricultural Attache in Norway.

In manufacturing the plastic powder from which such articles are made, nearly all of the fish that remains after the fillets are cut off is used—about 40 percent. The product is a protein thermosetting plastic.. The manufacturing firm began turning out the plastic powder about a year ago. Present production of this chemurgic article runs about 10 thousand pounds a day.

Chemurgic Digest, April 1950, p. 21.

#### SOIL FUMIGATION SEEN CURBING COTTON PESTS

Fumigation of the soil may be the answer to two destructive underground cotton pests, Agriculture Department scientists said. The tiny parasites—Fusarium Wilt and Root-Knot Nematodes—have cut yields up to 90 percent in some areas, USDA tests indicate application of 20 gallons per acre of ethylene dibromide checks the pest action. Treatment costs are estimated at \$50 an acre for an overall job, or \$30 an acre for a row-by-row treatment.

Journal of Commerce, May 22, 1950, p. 12.

#### NEW INSECTICIDE FOUND IN ROOTS OF COMMON WEED

A new important agricultural crop may be in the making for this country if continued research reveals that a potent new insecticidal chemical found in the roots of a native common perennial weed contains properties similar to those of pyrethrum, one of the oldest and safest insecticides known.

The discovery of this new chemical, an amide called scabrin, was made by Martin Jacobson, an insecticide chemist of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, Avery S. Hoylt, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine chief announced. Early experimental trials with the new insecticide, derived by extracting the active principal from plants of the genus Heliopsis, (commonly known as ox-eye) showed it to be appreciably more toxic to houseflies than pyrethrum, which is the standard of comparison in laboratory tests.

There are a number of species of Heliopsis in this country, all native to the United States. Three of them have been tested for insecticidal activity thus far. Extracts of leaves, stems, bark and roots, have been made. The extracts from the roots of one of the species, scabra, appear to contain the most powerful of the insecticides. Plants of scabra grow on dry soils and along river banks from Maine to British Columbia and New Mexico. They are hardy herbaceous weeds from 2-1/2 to 4-1/2 feet tall, that are related to the sunflowers.

Journal of Commerce, June 5, 1950, p. 16.



## SOLVENT EXTRACTION OF FATS IN DEMONSTRATION PLANT STAGE.

Solvent extraction of oils, already strong in soybeans and growing in linseed and cottonseed, is now making passes at animal fats. VioBin Inc., Monticello, Ill., has patented a process for solvent rendering now in the demonstration plant stage. Azeotropic distillation coupled with the extraction beats the old problem of interference by the high water content. Residual oil is much lower than with rendering and press. The latter process becomes more expensive when ordinary solvent extraction is added as a finish.

Chemical and Engineering News, May 22, 1950, p. 1712.